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POLICY ON DRUG ABUSE

Central Intelligence Agency employees and others holding CIA security clearances or approvals are entrusted with access to highly sensitive classified information relating to the national security. To be eligible for access to classified information, individuals must be trustworthy, stable, of excellent character and discretion, and not subject to undue influence or duress through exploitable personal conduct.

The security clearance or approval process entails the examination of a sufficient period of a person's life to make a determination that the person is not now, nor likely to become later, an unacceptable security risk. Adjudication in the field of security is the careful weighing of a number of variables known as the "whole person" concept. The recency of occurrence of any adverse incident, together with circumstances pertaining thereto, is central to a fair and uniform evaluation. The maturity and responsibility of a person at the time of the adverse incident(s) as well as any repetition or continuation of such conduct will be considered. Each case must be judged on its own merits and final determination remains the responsibility of the Director of Central Intelligence. Any doubt concerning a person having access to classified information shall be resolved in favor of the national security.

Involvement in the use, transport, transfer, sale, cultivation, processing and manufacturing of hallucinogens, narcotics, drugs and other materials and chemical compounds identified and listed in the Controlled Substance Act of 1970, as amended, is of direct concern in determining the individual's capability to exercise the care, discretion, and judgment required to protect classified information. Persons involved in drug trafficking, i.e., the commercial cultivation, processing, manufacturing, purchase or sale of illegal substances will normally be recommended for disapproval or revocation of access.

The policy of the Central Intelligence Agency requires total abstinence from the use of illegal drugs by all staff employees and others enjoying clearances or approvals for access to Agency classified information or facilities. Illegal drug use and the use of prescription drugs not in accordance with medically approved treatment are both matters of concern. The Agency will not condone the use of illegal drugs by security-cleared or approved persons and regards the abuse of prescription drugs as a

serious matter to be given immediate professional attention. Any such use could lead to suspension or termination of access and employment. In addition, the Agency is obligated to report to the Department of Justice, for possible prosecution, certain drug-related infractions.

Drug abuse is considered relevant to an individual's stability and susceptibility to undue influence or duress. In addition to being illegal in many parts of the world, drug abuse may render the individual susceptible to exploitation by hostile intelligence services. Drug abuse may lead to varying degrees of physical or psychological dependence and may have a deleterious effect on an individual's mental state and ability to function.

The nature of the substance used, whether the use is experimental or habitual, and the frequency, recency and circumstances surrounding the use are central considerations. Acceptance by the individual of the Agency's ban on future drug abuse is essential. The judgment that an individual is a habitual abuser of any controlled substance (multiple use beyond the point of mere experimentation) will normally result in disapproval. Even experimental use of hard drugs or hallucinogens could warrant a recommendation for disapproval.